



**STATE OF ALABAMA
BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**

100 NORTH UNION STREET, SUITE 724
MONTGOMERY, AL 36130-5040
Phone: (334) 242-4064 Fax: (334) 242-3288
info@pt.alabama.gov



Kathy Miller
Executive Director

September 8, 2022

- I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order in the Alabama Board of Physical Therapy's conference room by Board Chair Jonathan Zecher at 9:31 AM. Board Members present were Alina Adams, Nathan McGriff, Margaret Hemm, Dana Daniel Blake, and T-Michael Dougherty. Board Member Robert Fleming was not in attendance. Also present were J. Matt Bledsoe, Assistant Attorney General, Kathy Miller, Executive Director, Angela Warr, Executive Assistant III, and Kristi Mullins, Accounting Specialist. Two guests were physically present at the meeting, Shannon Turner and Heather Wells, both from Wallace Community College in Dothan. Guest and PT Compact Working Group member Ellen Strunk was in attendance via speaker phone.

A quorum was established.

Alina Adams provided a devotional.

Open Discussion: Jonathan Zecher opened the floor for open discussion. Alina Adams questioned the adoption of the last rule changes in 2021 and if the Board did everything required. Discussion was held and Assistant Attorney General Bledsoe advised that all steps were completed.

- II. Minutes:** The minutes from May 12, 2022, and August 6, 2022, were reviewed. One typographical error was corrected in the May 12, 2022 minutes. A motion to accept the May 12, 2022, minutes, as amended, and the August 6, 2022, was made by Alina Adams, and seconded by Nathan McGriff. Jonathan Zecher, Margaret Hemm, Nathan McGriff, Alina Adams, Dana Daniel Blake, and T-Michael Dougherty voted in favor. Minutes for May 12, 2022, as amended, and August 6, 2022, were approved.

III. Reports:

- A. Licensee Report:** Angela Warr presented this report. As of August 31, 2022, the Board has 6480 active licensees. 3024 are PTAs and 3456 are PTs. Between May 1, 2022, and August 30, 2022, 236 regular licenses were issued: 158 PTs and 78 PTAs. Eighty-four temporary licenses were issued: 38 were PTs and 46 was PTAs. Four PT temps and 5 PTA temps were voided due to failing the NPTE. Fifteen expired licenses were reinstated: 6 PTs and 9 PTAs. There were 2 FCCPT reports substantially equivalent to CWT4 submitted and

licenses issued. There was 1 FCCPT reports substantially equivalent to CWT5 submitted and license issued. There was 1 FCCPT reports substantially equivalent to CWT6 submitted and license issued.

B. Financial Report: Kristi Mullins presented this report. Nothing unusual to report. \$275 fee noted for vendor rental at the APTA - Alabama Chapter's Annual Meeting on August 6, 2022.

C. Violations Committee Report: Assistant Attorney General J. Matt Bledsoe presented this report, and the recommendations were as follows:

2022-05: Employer filed a complaint citing false documentation. Committee still investigating. Continue until next meeting.

2022-06: The patient complained about the quality of care received from the physical therapist assistant. The violations committee recommends no probable cause. No violation of the Practice Act was determined. Close complaint.

2022-07: The patient complained about the quality of care received from the physical therapist. The violations committee recommends no probable cause. No violation of the Practice Act was determined. Close Complaint.

Nathan McGriff made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Violations Committee regarding 2022-05, 2022-06, and 2022-07. T-Michael Dougherty seconded that motion. Alina Adams, Nathan McGriff, Dana Daniel Blake, and T-Michael Dougherty voted to approve. Jonathan Zecher and Margaret Hemm abstained from voting. The recommendations of the Violations Committee were accepted.

D. Executive Director Report: See attached Director Update.

E. Wellness Report: Nathan McGriff stated Dr. Garver indicated there are no issues with the Wellness program and all participants are in compliance. The report did note that one participant has completed treatment and is being monitored.

IV. Unfinished Business: PT Compact technology update was covered by Executive Director Kathy Miller in her report. Additionally, Assistant Attorney General Matt Bledsoe gave an update on the revised PT Compact legislation and the possibility of finding a sponsor. The PT Compact Working Group, Ellen Strunk, Jonathan Zecher, and Nathan McGriff, along with Attorney Bledsoe, plan to meet in October to prepare secure a sponsor and file the legislation in November, if possible. Further discussion was had on the best way to secure a sponsor and to ensure the legislation is monitored each step through the House and Senate. Ellen Strunk left the meeting at approximately 10:52 AM.

V. New Business:

A. AG Report: Assistant Attorney General Bledsoe informed the Board that our website's version of the Practice Act and the Administrative Code were out of date. He provided Executive Assistant III Angela Warr the updated versions to be substituted on the website.

He also presented the VC Report earlier in the meeting and participated in the PT Compact discussion prior to his report.

- B. Continuing education requirement for graduates who passed the NPTE more than 12 months after graduation:** A discussion was held regarding when an applicant who did not pass the NPTE within 12 months of their graduation date would submit continuing education. A conclusion was made that a new licensee who did not pass the NPTE within 12 months of graduating would not need to submit continuing education until their first renewal, with the exception of two hours of Alabama jurisprudence, as all licensees are required to do.
- C. Continuing Education Guideline form:** Discussion was held regarding the form that is currently on our website entitled “Continuing Education Guideline.” No action to be taken at this time.
- D. Review and discuss adoption of State Personnel’s recent amended pay plans:** Review and discussion was held of the adoption of State Personnel’s recent amended pay plan. The amendment allows boards and agencies to award up to an additional four steps to all current pay plans if an employee has reached the highest possible pay rate in their current classification. Each agency and board is required to adopt the policy. Nathan McGriff moved to adopt the amended pay. Jonathan Zecher seconded the motion. Alina Adams, Nathan McGriff, Dana Daniel Blake, Jonathan Zecher, Margaret Hemm, and T-Michael Dougherty voted to approve. The ABPT adopted the amended pay plans offered by the Alabama State Personnel Department.
- E. Executive Director Annual Review:** Board Chair Jonathan Zecher shared that he had an annual review with Executive Director Kathy Miller. Jonathan Zecher moved to award Executive Director Kathy Miller a two-step pay raise. Nathan McGriff seconded the motion. Jonathan Zecher, Alina Adams, Nathan McGriff, Dana Daniel Blake, Margaret Hemm, and T-Michael Dougherty voted to approve. Motion was approved.

VI. Action Items:

- A.** PT Compact Working Group to meet in October.
- B.** Update the APTB’s website with current versions of Practice Act and the Administrative Code.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 PM.

The next meeting will be November 10 @ 9:00 AM at the Board offices.



Jonathan Zecher
Chair

September 2022 Executive Director Update:

- During the 2nd week of July, the automation of the FSBPT report was launched. That project was funded (\$6800.00) by FSBPT grant. On August 12, 2022, the FSBPT approved another grant (\$17,000.00) for the implementation of an Application Programming Interface (API). This technology will automate services to the Board by transferring the applicable licensure and score data from the FSBPT to the Board. Eventually, disciplinary action will also be transferred. The API is projected to be live by the end of 2022.
- Trainings: 6/23/2022: I attended training on the Budget. 7/23/2022-7/24/2022: T-Michael and I attended the (virtual) Leadership Issues Forum. 7/28/2022: Conducted training (virtual) for Alina's PTA class. 8/24/2022: Conducted training at South University (in-person) for the PTA students.
- Nominations: On 8/6/2022, nominations were voted on at the APTA chapter meeting. On 8/8/2022, the 5 names were sent to the Governor's office. I have spoken to Emily Moore (assistant to Appointments Director) with the Governor's office and learned that they are currently reviewing all the nominees.
- I have been working on End of Year duties for the office: Completed an internal property audit and sent the property certification letter to the State Auditor's Office. I also completed the Quarterly Performance Report (Actuals) for 2022. All EOY tasks are in good shape and on point. If we want travel to be paid during FY22, I need your travel forms signed and returned on the morning of 9/9/2022; they must be submitted to the Comptroller by 3:30 same day.
- On 9/8/2022, we began working on the CE audit for this year.